

DRUG FAMILY OF SEVEN AND ROB HOUSE

Bridgeport Evening Farmer

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PRICE TWO CENTS

BOLSHEVIKI POWER WANING

OVERTHROW NOW IMMINENT

CHLOROFORM MEMBERS OF HOUSEHOLD; LIQUOR DEALER'S HOME LOOTED

Deadening Fluid Poured on Bed Clothing of Sleeping Inmates of Hallett Street House and Robbers Then Leisurely Proceeded to Clean Out Domicile—Missed \$600 Which Was Hidden in Bedroom—Closets Stripped of Clothing—All of Inmates of House Experience Dizziness on Awakening—Believe Four Men Perpetrated Crime.

As a precautionary measure to secure themselves from interruption while at work, burglars who broke into the home of Morris Bornstein, a well-to-do cafe owner, at 587 Hallett street, early Christmas morning, drugged the seven sleeping members of his household by administering chloroform, and then robbed their victims of \$200 worth of jewelry, \$32.50 in cash, and a quantity of whiskey.

Four or five men are believed to have participated in the job, effecting entrance through the cellar by forcing two doors admitting to a stairway leading to the kitchen. They ransacked every room, and although they must have made considerable noise, failed to awaken the doped sleepers.

The chloroform, the authorities believe, was poured upon the bedclothes in each room, and its fumes allowed to act in this way. The burglars are supposed to have been equipped with masks rendering them immune from the effects of the anesthetic. Two of the intruders probably had the handling of the drug, the police say, while their companions looted the premises.

Bornstein discovered that his house had been robbed when he awoke at 9:30 o'clock, almost four hours after his customary rising time. He experienced a feeling of dizziness when he stepped out of bed, but soon recovered and after dressing, started to go down into the cellar to take care of the furnace. He then found the kitchen door barricaded against him, and finding it open, saw at a glance what had happened.

The burglars had taken every bit of clothing from closets, bureau drawers, etc., and taken them into the kitchen to search them. They then piled them against the door, and after completing their task, reinforced this barrier with pieces of furniture.

Each room was thoroughly inspected by the burglars, and the money they obtained was taken from two of the bedrooms in which their victims lay sleeping. Bornstein's trousers pockets yielded them \$12, and a handbag belonging to his sister-in-law, Dinah Bornstein, of New York, who was visiting over Christmas, added \$20.50 to their booty. In all of their operations, not one of the sleepers heard them.

The silverware, all sterling, consisted of 46 pieces, including knives, forks, etc., and was taken from a buffet drawer. Nothing else was stolen.

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AM. BRITISH CO. REFUSES TO MAKE STOCK TRANSFER

Suits asking the superior court to order the transfer of stock upon the books of The American British Manufacturing Co. of Stamford, have been by Francis P. Pace of New York, who asks damages of \$15,000, and Henrietta W. Wynn, of New York, who asks damages of \$20,000.

The allegations in both suits are similar, that stock in the company owned by William K. Macintosh of New York, 755 shares, was taken by execution under a judgment granted in the supreme court of the state of New York, January 16, 1915.

Naval Vessel With 35 Men Thought Lost

New York, Dec. 26.—The American steamer Tuscarora, formerly a lake vessel and requisitioned by the United States shipping board for Atlantic service, together with her entire crew of 35 men, is believed to have been lost at sea somewhere north of Cape Breton Island, according to advices received in shipping circles today from Nova Scotia.

The crew of the Tuscarora were recruited in New England ports. She was commanded by Capt. Crowell, from Cape Cod.

TOBACCO NEEDED, ASSERTS BRITISH FOOD CONTROLLER

Boston, Dec. 26.—Federal investigation into the beef business will begin here tomorrow and continue for three days. United States Marshal Mitchell said he had not been instructed to subpoena any witness, but it was understood that several had been notified by telegraph direct from Washington to appear.

Announcement was made in Washington Monday that the Boston hearings would be devoted to "an entirely new angle" of the case, particularly the methods employed by F. H. Prince of this city and J. Ogden Armour of Chicago in the reorganization of the Chicago Stock Yards Co.

NUN WHO DEFIED GRAND JURY IS FREED BY COURT

Savannah, Ga., Dec. 26.—The Superior Court today dismissed contempt proceedings brought against the mother superior of St. Vincent's convent, who refused to allow an inspection of the establishment by the grand jury which demanded one under the terms of a law prescribing inspection of certain public institutions.

The court held that the law provided only for inspection of institutions where inmates are kept in confinement. The Veasy law under which the grand jury was acting, was recently enacted.

CAR VICTIM REFUSED TO PAY FARE

Coroner John J. Phelan today commenced his inquest into the death of Leonard Malherbe of Stratford, killed December 24 when he fell from a west bound trolley car in Barnum avenue near Mill Hill avenue in the path of an east bound car. Owing to the absence of some witnesses who reside in Milford and could not be subpoenaed because they were away for the holidays the hearing was continued.

Earl Hill, of New Haven, conductor of the west bound car, was the chief witness. He said Malherbe was on his car, upon the outside of the rear vestibule door on the left hand side of the car. When coming near Mill Hill avenue Hill noticed the man outside, opened the door, and told him to come in as he was in a dangerous position. Malherbe had not paid fare, said he had but a short way to go, and declined to pay six cents for the distance he still had to travel.

Hill said he then put his hand on the man's shoulder to induce him to enter the car, and received a punch in the stomach. He then pulled the bell to stop the car. In the interval while he was looking forward Malherbe fell from the car. He was struck by a car coming in the opposite direction, and rolled under the fender, but not under the wheels.

Coroner Phelan will hear the passengers on Hill's car as soon as they can be brought before him.

BRICK LAYERS NEEDED, DRAFT IN OPERATION

Washington, Dec. 26.—The new draft machinery was invoked for the first time when Provost Marshal General Crowder made public today instructions to all governors calling for the mobilization of 1,000 brick layers, urgently needed by Gen. Pershing at once.

Local boards are called upon to examine questionnaires now being returned and report as rapidly as possible on the number of bricklayers of draft age available for service. They will be forwarded to the aviation section, signal corps, at Kelley field, San Antonio, Tex. The purpose for which they are to be used in France is not disclosed.

The order is the first application of the special occupational classification provisions of the new draft regulations. The brick layers in any board's jurisdiction will be assembled in order of their draft number relationship to each other, but without regard to the men in any other occupation.

U. S. TO POOL COAL IF WAR IS PROLONGED

Washington, Dec. 26.—Fuel Administrator Garfield told the Senate investigating committee today that if the war continued very long the government would be compelled to pool coal and sell it at reasonable prices.

Some coal operators, he said, were making the greatest profits in their history, but he considered high prices stimulus to the great production he was demanding.

The fuel administrator said he saw little relief in prospect for the railways until their operation was centralized.

Desire 50 Patrolmen Be Added

Provision for This Number of New Policemen is Made in the Requisition of Board of Police Commissioners Filed Today.

Provision for 50 new policemen is made in the requisition of the Board of Police Commissioners filed with City Auditor Bernard Keating today. At its last annual meeting the Board of Apportionment granted an additional sum for the appointment of 15 more patrolmen, but the appointments were not made, the result being that enough money has accumulated to provide for double that number.

This means that if the apportionment board grants the new request 50 new policemen will be added next May, in addition to those who will be appointed to fill the places of policemen drafted into army service.

The police board requisitions for a total of \$445,309.11 for the department's maintenance during the next fiscal year. Included in the items is \$5,000, which is annually given to Alderman Malcolm MacFarlane, a contractor for repairs at the police headquarters. Other items are, New signal boxes, \$2,000; motorcycle, \$750; drillmaster, \$50; new auto patrol, \$2,000; new lockers, \$50; repairs to second, third and fourth precincts, \$1,100; liquor, dog and truant, \$5,000; advertising stray dogs, \$300.

A decrease of approximately \$80,000 under the amount appropriated this year is shown in the requisition of the Board of Park Commissioners. Included in this board's requisition is \$2,000 for the development of the upper end of Beardsley park, \$5,000 for the development of Beachwood park, and \$750 for equipment for a playground at Eastwick avenue and Pine street. The board total requisition is \$12,230, and special amounting to \$19,250, making a grand total of \$32,480.

The board also asks for \$2,000 for the erection of a grand stand in Beardsley park and \$500 for improving Old Mill Green.

The Board of Building Commissioners requisitions for \$11,150, an increase of \$3,250. The requisition includes: Salaries, \$8,500; expenses, \$800; stable and garage expenses, including new automobile, \$1,800; supplies, \$150; contingency fund, \$500. The board also requests an unspecified sum for the purchase of 15 interchangeable buildings to be used for voting purposes.

The Board of Library Directors in addition to the usual one-quarter mill tax asks for \$45,000, including \$19,000 for salaries.

The sum of \$15,927 is asked for the maintenance of the Police and Charities building, including \$5,000 to remodel.

FIRE HORSES IN MONTH WILL BE BUT A MEMORY

Within a month the clatter of the fire horse's hoof will be but a memory to Bridgeporters. Time has forced these faithful brutes aside, to be replaced by mechanical invention, and the last six remaining horses—

which a few years ago were the pride of the city's fire department—are to be sold to the highest bidder.

Currying and feeding horses will be eliminated from the fireman's daily duties, but will be replaced with metal polishing and cleaning engines. The city, through the Board of Contract and Supply, made its last requisition for fire department horses today, and 75 bushels of oats will be bought to feed them until the city is ready to dispose of their services.

Demands Justice For Doll

John D. Pannill, a Lawyer and Brother of Youth Slain in Water Street Fears Political Pull Will Thwart Law.

In a letter to The Farmer, John D. Pannill, of Badin, N. C., a brother of Norris Pannill, who was murdered in Water street the night of the riot and gun battle at "Baby Doll" Thomas' gambling den and whose death has resulted in a charge of murder being lodged against Thomas and one of his lieutenants, "Texas" Hankin, fears that Thomas, if guilty of the taking of his brother's life, will escape the stern hand of justice.

In his communication Pannill asserts his brother was bred from as good blood as can be found in the South and the lawyer asserts his determination to see that his brother's life is lawfully avenged.

The communication in part reads as follows:

"The young man, Norris Pannill, who was killed in the recent trouble in your city at the cabaret operated by one Thomas, was my youngest brother, and I am anxious to get all the information that I can concerning the affair. I have seen a copy of your paper with a partial account of the coroner's inquest, and being favorably impressed with the manner in which you have reported the cold facts, I am desirous of obtaining copies containing your full reports from day to day.

"I can say for my brother that he was a thorough little gentleman, bred from as good blood as there is in the South, not a carouser and never during his life had any trouble or made an enemy; his friends where he was known were legion. Therefore, a determination to do all that I can to see that his death is lawfully avenged is strong within me, as is also the desire to know all the facts, that may more intelligently lend such aid as I can, if there be any, toward that end.

"I know but little of the workings of the courts in your state, though an attorney myself in this state, but I am afraid from what I have gathered from the reports that the negro, 'Baby Doll' will have sufficient pull and influence to have the matter hushed, as I imagine there is hardly one of his political henchmen, but would help him, and to whom it does not matter that this young life has been so ruthlessly taken."

The body of the riot victim was buried in Winston Salem, N. C., last Saturday.

CABARET FIENDS MUST PAY A WAR TAX NEW YEAR'S

Patrons of cabaret entertainments New Year's eve will be subject to a war tax in all places where there is a reservation of chairs or admission charged, or where the price of the dinner served includes such charges. It is not expected, however, that this will detract materially from the usual New Year's celebration.

In cabarets the tax is somewhat higher than for theater admissions, according to rulings made by the Internal Revenue bureau and which have been received at the Bridgeport office.

RAILROAD PROBE SATURDAY

Washington, Dec. 26.—Investigation of the railroad situation under the Cummins resolution will begin before the Senate interstate commerce committee on Saturday, with Chairman Hall and Commissioners McChord, Clark and Atchison of the interstate commerce commission as witnesses.

Connecticut Fair, continued cold tonight and Thursday; moderate northwest winds.

TERM LEADERS "GERMAN HIRELINGS" AND TALK OF BOMBING THEM NOW HEARD IN STREETS--BOLSHEVIK TROOPS DECLINE TO ATTACK UKRAINIANS AND REFUSE ORDERS--CIVIL STRIFE

RUSS BULLETIN.

London, Dec. 26.—The Russo-German peace negotiations, which were to have been resumed on Monday after a postponement to give the Germans time to formulate their reply to the Russian terms, have again been delayed for one day. The Germans, it is stated, have asked for a further postponement until Jan. 24.

London, Dec. 26.—There have been occasional assertions in recent Petrograd dispatches that the influence and power of the Bolsheviks was waning, but never with such unanimity as in dispatches dated from the Russian capital printed today. Nearly all make the point in one form or another that defection from the workmen's and soldiers' organization is growing constantly.

Among the causes alleged are general lack of authority, the increase in drunkenness, the reluctance of the population to work and, the scarcity of food. The main desire of the soldiers is said to be for peace.

The correspondents cite instances of Bolshevik troops refusing to march, declining to attack the Ukrainians, and permitting the Cossacks to disarm them without resistance. Fighting, it is said, is the last thing they are willing or intend to do.

A hostile spirit is reported to survive among the Baltic sailors and the Red guard but the former are not numerous enough to conquer the Ukrainians and the Red guard is largely untrained. It is reported, therefore, that war against the Ukraine probably will not materialize on any serious scale.

The Bolshevik leaders appear to be becoming conscious of hopeless failure, and the correspondent of the Daily News writes:

"There is a tremendous and growing opposition to the Bolsheviks among all classes. Men who formerly supported them are turning against them and 'German hirelings' is a common term of denunciation. There is much talk of meeting the present reign of terror with counter measures and bomb throwing is freely suggested as the only method of exerting pressure on the Bolsheviks. This is not merely talk, as those who say it are those that have already thrown bombs."

Reports of civil war activities, however, continue to be received. The Bolshevik government declares definitely that its troops have captured Kharkov, Nicolaiev and are threatening the Ukrainian hold on Odessa. The Cossacks report the strengthening of their hold on the Donetz basin. None of the reports, however, is more precise than recent reports of a similar nature. In the meantime, nothing more is heard of the efforts at reconciliation between the Bolsheviks and the Ukrainians.

Interest in the convening of the constituent assembly is said to have reawakened remarkably and demands for its convocation are made, it is reported, by even the most ignorant classes and by the troops of the Petrograd garrison.

It is reported that the Bolsheviks intend to control admission to the assembly by issuing tickets. This is sharply opposed by the Social Revolutionists, who are credited with the determination to convene the assembly in any case.

KILLED BY R. R. TRAIN WHILE RETURNING FROM CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Discovery of a man's body horribly battered and mangled, on the west-bound tracks of the New Haven road, under the Brewster street bridge, early this morning, gave rise to murder theories which were only dispelled after careful investigation by detectives had proven the victim to have been killed by a train.

The corpse was taken to the city morgue, and there was identified, about 9 o'clock, by Mrs. Michael Killmenski, of 603 Bostwick avenue, as that of her husband. It was she who told the police that her husband had met with foul play, and she was with difficulty later convinced that the man had met with an accident.

Killmenski had been out to spend Christmas Day with friends at the home of John Demko, in Princeton street, Fairfield. There had been considerable drinking during the day, and toward evening an argument arose over some petty matter. Killmenski left the house in anger, about 6:30 o'clock, determined to go home. He was under the influence of liquor at the time, and it is believed that he did not know where he was going. He wandered in the direction of the railroad, and started to cross the tracks when he was struck. Neither the hour when he was hit, nor by what train, could be learned.

The man was struck with such force as to be thrown against the stone abutments of the bridge, and the impact crushed his skull. A blood stain showed this morning where his head had hit.

His body lay in the snow for several hours, and was frozen stiff when found by a man walking the tracks at 8 o'clock this morning. Medical Examiner William H. Donaldson of Fairfield, was notified, and after viewing the remains, ordered them removed to the morgue.